Unit Four Courageous Characters

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| My Life in Dog Years by Gary Paulsen |

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| Focus Standards | Essential Questions | Vocabulary | Reading Skill | Literary Analysis | Writing | Extension Activities |
| **Common Core**  **Essential**  **Standard #: RI 6.2, RL 6.9,**  **W 6.1, W 6.6, SL 6.2, L 6.3** | Can animals be a man’s best friend?  What does the writer tell you about how he acts, thinks, or feels? What do you think you know about people who act or think that way?   What does the writer tell you about the problems he faces? What do you know about the situation or similar situations?   How do our communities shape us and how do we decide who we are? | Genre  Compare/contrast  Summary  Inferences   Characterization  Nonfiction  Autobiography  Credible Sources | Analyze  Interpret  Drawing inferences  main idea  Details  summarizing | Character analysis  Conflict/Struggles  First person point of view | Research the history of the Iditarod. When and why did it begin? Where does it take place? What are the guidelines to enter? What is the impact of the race on the dogs’ well-being? Using support from your research write an essay either in support of or against the Iditarod.   **Grammar:** Revise and edit essays in peer workshops. | Read “Lob’s Girl” and compare Lob to the dogs in the novel.  Read articles about:  Border Collie field trials  Philippines’ deadly snakes |